

## Message Text

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14-11

ACTION SS-25

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O 050845Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1378

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LENINGRAD 1018

EXDIS

EO 11652GDS

TAGS: OREP (HUMPHREY, HUBERT, AND SCOTT, HUGH)

SUBJ: LENINGRAD VISIT OF CODEL HUMPHREY/SCOTT

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. CODEL DEPARTED LENINGRAD 0830 JULY 5 AFTER VERY

FULL

TWO-DAY PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES. SENATORS ENJOYED LENINGRAD SIGHTS AS A POST-MOSCOW FROSTING ON THE CAKE AND WEATHER WAS BEST THIS NORTHERN CLIME HAS TO OFFER. END SUMMARY.

2. CODEL HUMPHREY/SCOTT, REPRESENTED IN LENINGRAD BY SENATORS

RIBICOFF

AND JAVITS AND NINE OF THEIR COLLEAGUES, DID ABOUT AS MUCH AS CAN BE PACKED INTO TWO DAY VISIT TO OLD ST. PETERSBURG. CITY AND OBLAST OFFICIALS ORGANIZED A VERY FULL PROGRAM AND IT WAS VERY EVIDENT THAT WORD FROM ON HIGH WAS TO GIVE CODEL EVERY CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY. PRINCIPAL SOVIET OFFICIALS FROM LENINGRAD INVOLVED IN VISIT WERE A.N. SHIBALOV, CHAIRMAN OF OBLAST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND M.D. FILONOV, FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF CITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. HOWEVER, PARTY OFFICIALS ALSO TOOK A HAND IN THE PROGRAM, NAMELY B.I.

ARISTOV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE LENINGRAD CITY COMMITTEE OF CPSU, AND N.YA. SUSLOV, CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS SECTION OF OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE. ALTHOUGH LENINGRAD ITINERARY FOR CODEL CONSISTED MOSTLY OF SIGHTSEEING, CONGEN CONSIDERS THAT SOVIETS ALSO ATTACHED IMPORTANCE

TO

ACCOMPANYING PRESENCE OF G.A. ARBATOV AND G.A. ZHUKOV, WHO HAD

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CONTINUED OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH CODEL MEMBERS WHILE IN LENINGRAD.

3. SOLE OFFICIAL SESSION WAS CALL AT CITY HALL (HEADQUARTERS OF CITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE) ON MORNING OF JULY 3. SHIBALOV AND FILONOV DID THE HONORS IN MAKING STANDARD PRESENTATION ON "THIS IS LENINGRAD." FOLLOWING THEIR PRESENTATIONS, SENATORS RIBICOFF AND JAVITS RESPONDED WITH EXPRESSION OF CODEL'S BEING PLEASED TO VISIT LENINGRAD, A HERO CITY OF GREAT RENOWN. SENATORS FAVORABLY NOTED TENOR OF MEETINGS IN MOSCOW, ESPECIALLY WITH GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV, AND EMPHASIZED NECESSITY OF VIABLE US-SOVIET RELATIONS AND THEIR IMPORTANCE FOR PEACE OF ENTIRE WORLD.

4. SIGHTSEEING ITINERARY TOOK SENATORS TO PETERHOF, ST. ISAAC'S CATHEDRAL, HERMITAGE MUSEUM, PUSHKIN, PAVLOVSK. THERE WAS ALSO WREATH-LAYING AT PISKAREVSKOYE MEMORIAL CEMETERY AND STOP AT NEW MONUMENT TO DEFENDERS OF LENINGRAD. LATTER EVENT WAS USED AS OCCASION FOR SENATORS RIBICOFF AND JAVITS TO GIVE BRIEF FILMED PRESS INTERVIEW.

PRINCIPAL SOCIAL EVENT WAS DINNER HOSTED BY SHIBALOV AT STATE GUEST HOUSE ON STONE ISLAND EVENING OF JULY 3. SENATOR RIBICOFF MADE VERY IMPRESSIVE REMARKS IN HIS RETURN TOAST, NOTING SINCERE WISH OF AMERICAN PEOPLE TO WORK FOR PEACE IN COOPERATION WITH SOVIET NATION  
IN ORDER TO AVOID TRAGEDIES OF WAR AS REPRESENTED BY PISKAREVSKOYE CEMETERY. SOVIETS PRESENT AT DINNER COMMENTED VERY FAVORABLY ON SENATOR'S REMARKS.

5. FOLLOWING CODEL'S DEPARTURE FOR WARSAW, ACCOMPANYING SOVIET AND AMERICAN PARTIES ADJOURNED TO TABLE IN VIP LOUNGE OF AIRPORT WHERE ARBATOV TOASTED FINE HOSPITALITY OF LENINGRAD AND ASKED DEPUTY MAYOR FILONOV TO CONVEY HIS APPRECIATION TO LENINGRAD PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. ARBATOV ALSO PRAISED THE CODEL'S VISIT AS HAVING GIVEN THEM THE CHANCE TO ACQUIRE UNDERSTANDING OF NATIONAL CHARACTER OF SOVIET PEOPLE AND THEIR DESIRE FOR PEACE AND IMPROVED US-SOVIET RELATIONS.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CODEL MEMBERS CERTAINLY TIRED AFTER SO MANY EVENT PACKED DAYS, THEIR VISIT WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED HERE. SENATORS MADE EXCELLENT IMPRESSION ON LENINGRAD OFFICIALS, WHO CLEARLY REALIZED THAT GROUP VERY INFLUENTIAL IN DETERMINING FUTURE COURSE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, ESPECIALLY TRADE. AT CONSUL  
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GENERAL'S 4TH OF JULY RECEPTION EVENING OF JULY 4 HEAD OF INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF LENINGRAD PARTY NEWSPAPER LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA, ACTIVELY SOUGHT DISCUSSIONS WITH SENATORS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF VISIT TO SOVIET UNION. ONE OF HIS SPECIFIC QUESTIONS WAS "WHAT WILL YOU TELL SENATOR JACKSON WHEN YOU GET BACK?"  
SENATORS RIBICOFF AND JAVITS BOTH TOLD CONSUL GENERAL THEY WERE WELL SATISFIED WITH THEIR VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION AND LATTER

EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT MOVEMENT ON TRADE/EMIGRATION ISSUE NOW  
WAS REAL POSSIBILITY WITH BOTH SIDES PREPARED TO GIVE A LITTLE.  
NEUBERT

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